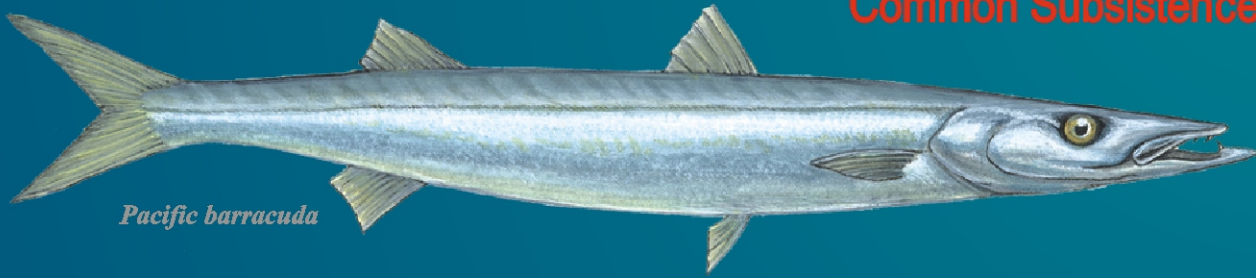


# Fishing Resources in Southern California

## Common Subsistence and Sport Fish



*Pacific barracuda*



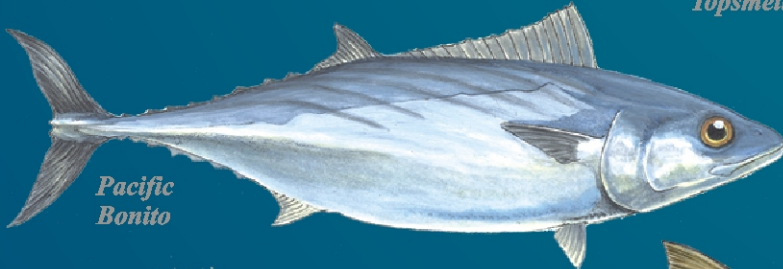
*Jacksmelt*



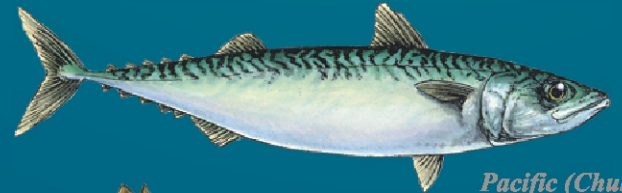
*Topsmelt*



*Pacific sardine*



*Pacific Bonito*



*Pacific (Chub) mackerel*



*Opaleye*



*Black perch*



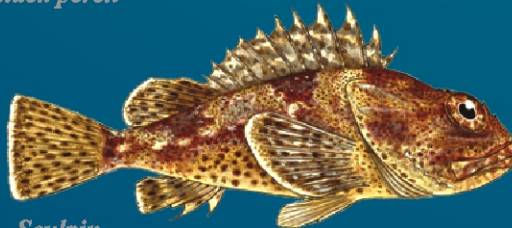
*Kelp bass, calico bass*



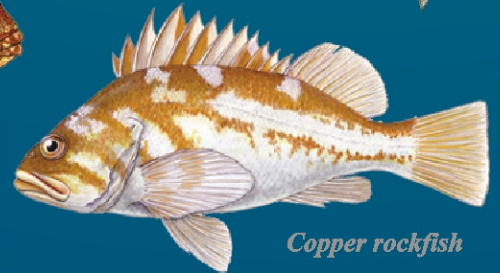
*Barred sandbass*



*Barred surfperch*



*Sculpin, California scorpionfish*



*Copper rockfish*



*Yellowfin croaker*



*Queenfish*



*Black croaker*



*White croaker, kingfish, tomcod*



*California Corbina*



*Shovelnose guitarfish*



*California halibut*



CABRILLO  
MARINE  
AQUARIUM





## Montrose Settlements Restoration Program

Restoring Natural Resources harmed by DDT and PCBs

**DDTs and PCBs dumped in the ocean decades ago continue to contaminate marine fish in Southern California. The Montrose Settlements Restoration Program is taking actions to restore healthy fishing for the public.**

### What are DDTs and PCBs?

DDTs and PCBs are toxic mixtures of chemicals that are very slow to break down in the environment. Most of the DDTs and PCBs contaminating the marine environment near Los Angeles came from companies that dumped their waste chemicals into the local sewer system. The sewer system discharges its wastewater into the ocean near White Point, between San Pedro and Palos Verdes.

DDT was once one of the most widely used pesticides. One of the largest DDT factories in the world was located in Torrance, CA. It dumped hundreds of tons of waste DDT into the Los Angeles sewer system between the late 1940s and the early 1970s.

PCBs are oil-like chemicals that had many different industrial uses, such as making paints, transformer coolants, and hydraulic fluids.

### What is the MSRP?

The Montrose Settlements Restoration Program (MSRP) is a partnership of six government agencies responsible as trustees for natural resources in Southern California. The agencies are:

- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration,
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
- National Parks Service,
- California State Parks,
- California Department of Fish and Game,
- California State Lands Commission.

The federal and state governments settled a lawsuit in October 2000 with those responsible for discharging DDTs and PCBs into the ocean near Los Angeles. Some of the settlement monies are being used by MSRP to restore natural resources injured by these chemicals. Bringing healthier fishing opportunities to the public is a major goal of the program.

### What is being done about this fish contamination?

#### Public education.

MSRP has joined with US EPA, government health agencies, and local community groups to give the public accurate information about the contaminated fish problem in the Los Angeles-Orange County area.

#### Survey of contaminated fish.

MSRP and US EPA are conducting a comprehensive survey of contaminated fish along the coast of Southern California. The information from this survey will be provided to the public and used to plan restoration projects.

#### Restoring healthier fishing.

MSRP is studying ways to restore wholesome fishing. We are developing a draft plan for public review; you may contact us (see below) to find out more.

#### Cleaning up the environment.

Dumping DDTs and PCBs into the ocean ended decades ago, but more than 100 tons of these contaminants still remain in the ocean bottom sediments near Los Angeles, where they continue to contaminate fish, birds, and other animals in the coastal environment. The US EPA is studying ways to deal with these sediments. For more information on EPA's actions, visit the EPA website at [www.epa.gov/region09/features/pvshelf/](http://www.epa.gov/region09/features/pvshelf/), or contact them at (800) 231-3075.

Fish Art: Evie Templeton, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium  
Technical Advisor: Jim Allen, SCCWRP  
Graphic Design: Milena Viljoen, MSRP

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[www.montroserestoration.gov](http://www.montroserestoration.gov)

### Take Action!

#### Reduce your exposure to DDTs and PCBs.

##### ☒ Fish Smart!

Some of the common fish along the Los Angeles coast are contaminated with the toxic chemicals DDTs and PCBs. The State of California has issued advisories to limit consumption of certain species in parts of the coast.

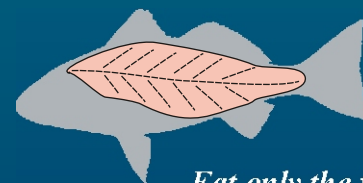
Use this Fish ID Card to know the fish you catch. For more information on fish and contaminants, you can:

- Look for signs posted at your local piers.
- Talk to the members of community groups distributing updated information about contaminated fish at fishing areas, health clinics and community events.
- Visit the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment website (which includes information in other languages) at: <http://www.oehha.ca.gov/fish.html>.

##### ☒ Cook Smart!

DDTs and PCBs build up in the fatty parts of fish. Try to cook in ways that reduce your fat intake, which can reduce your exposure to these chemicals.

- Before cooking, remove and throw away the head, guts, kidneys, liver, skin, fat and belly area.
- Eat only the filet, especially when making soups, stews or chowder.
- Bake, broil, steam or grill fish, instead of frying.
- *Throw away the cooking juices*, which can contain higher concentrations of these chemicals.



*Eat only the filet!*

##### ☒ Get involved!

MSRP invites the public to participate in its restoration planning. We will hold public meetings in 2005 to discuss and review fishing restoration ideas.

- To be on our mailing list, send us an email at [msrp@noaa.gov](mailto:msrp@noaa.gov).
- You can also leave us a voice message at: (866) 795-7786 (toll free).

**Please visit our website at:**  
**[www.montroserestoration.gov](http://www.montroserestoration.gov)**